

96-45

November 25, 2002

Michael K. Powell, Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 2054

Dear Mr. Powell:

I have been very disappointed in you directing your commission to withhold approval of the merger of EchoStar and Hughes.

I appreciate that in a major city this type of service might not be very important. But where me and my family live there are no other options to high speed internet service or decent TV reception. Our business and income are impacted by your lack of respect for more capital to go into this industry.

Presently there is not enough capital being committed to service in areas such as ours, but with a larger organization at least there could be opportunities for us to get good service at reasonable prices.

Why would you stand in the way?

I don't have enough money to get your attention?

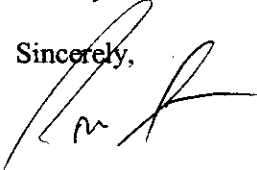
Sad! Your supposed to be a free market advocate. But instead you want to get in the way.

I voted for President Bush thinking that when he appoints people such as yourself, he is wanting to let individuals and business get the country going and allow us to use what we might decide is best for our lives. Not the government making that decision!

Free Markets! That is all we are asking for! Please help us!

Please get out of the way! We will all be better off if you will let us use what might be available to anyone. Not what you or your associates decide is best for some special interest.

Sincerely,



Ron Smith  
197 South Alta Vista Drive  
Pueblo West, CO 81007

Confirmed

DEC 3 2002

Distribution Center